

Acknowledgments

This book was developed to bring together the wide range of social science research undertaken within the Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre (CRC). To the best of our knowledge, it is the only such collection in the field of bushfire (or wildfire) research and practice. This book makes the material accessible to both non-specialists and bushfire researchers.

All the work reported here was undertaken as part of the Bushfire CRC program. We thank all those who sponsor and support Bushfire CRC research as funders, practitioners and colleagues, in particular Kevin O'Loughlin (CRC CEO), John Gledhill (End-user leader Program C) and Len Foster, who was a prime driver of the CRC idea.

We are grateful for the support and advice of our editorial committee. In addition to the book's editors, the Editorial Committee consisted of Damian Killalea and John Gledhill (Tasmania Fire Service); Naomi Brown (now CEO of the Australasian Fire Authorities Council, then with the Victorian Country Fire Authority and end-user leader); Richard Thornton (Research Director for the Bushfire CRC); and Kellie Watson (Bushfire CRC). Richard Thornton and Kellie Watson organised publication with CSIRO Publishing.

As an edited collection, the book depends on the efforts of its contributing authors and on the dedication of the reviewers. All chapters have been reviewed from a number of perspectives by the editors; two agency officials who work in research and community safety – Damian Killalea (Head Community Safety, Tasmania Fire Service) and David Nicholls (Research Co-ordinator for the CFA); and by Richard Thornton (of the CRC). Chapters that contained specific case studies or where the case was the subject of a public inquiry were also examined by fire and land-management agency staff familiar with the cases. Authors were invited to improve their chapters based on feedback from these reviewers and the quality of the material in this volume increased significantly as a result.

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